

January 22, 2020

MAYOR'S UPDATE

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The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including preparation of the 2020/21 Village budget, treatment at Village water wells, the stabilization plan for the former St. Paul's School and other matters. I encourage you to attend Village Board of Trustees meetings; the schedule can be found on the Village's website, www.gardencityny.net.

PSEG ELECTRIC RELIABILITY

PSEG Long Island is beginning a scheduled project that will improve electric reliability. It will replace existing poles and related equipment, strengthening the most vulnerable sections of the energy grid against extreme weather. The work on the circuit is scheduled to begin on approximately January 30, 2020. The scheduled work is funded through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and was established to harden the electrical distribution system against future storm damage and help restore power more quickly. The project includes:

- Upgrading and replacing existing electric wire with more weather resistant wire.
- Installing new and more durable poles.

The work is scheduled to take approximately four months to complete. Long Island licensed and approved contractors will generally work Monday – Saturday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., with limited evening and Sunday work. Customers along the project route will be sent letters explaining the work that will be done. While the letter references a 7:30 a.m. start time, we have made PSEG aware of our Village ordinances and they have stated that they will adhere to them. Crews will be working on approximately 3.5 miles of an electric main line circuit on the following streets in the Village of Garden City:

- Stewart Avenue, between Elton Road North and Jefferson Street
- New Hyde Park Road, between Clinch Avenue (south cut through) and Stratford Avenue

Trees growing near power lines significantly increase the chance of power outages and pose safety risks. PSEG will trim trees, where necessary. The new poles will be approximately the same height as existing poles, have a stronger base and will be placed about two-to-three feet from the current pole locations. Removing old poles requires action from all utilities that have installed equipment on the pole. To expedite this process, PSEG Long Island will actively coordinate with the cable TV and telephone utilities, as well as local municipalities.

PSEG Long Island anticipates some localized, intentional, short-duration power outages related to this project. All affected customers will be notified in advance of any power

outage. Customers can visit www.psegliny.com/reliability or can contact PSEG Long Island Customer Service at 1-800-490-0025 with questions.

WESTERN NASSAU TRANSMISSION PROJECT

The following work schedule is for the weeks of January 20, 2020 and January 27, 2020: PSEG crews will be test holing and exposing existing utilities to advance the engineering for the horizontal directional drill, which will cross under Stewart Avenue and Clinton Road. Crews will be working within the mall median on Stewart Avenue, and the property adjacent to the former Chase Bank on the south side of Stewart Avenue east of Clinton Road. No major road closures or traffic impacts are predicted. Messaging boards will be placed at key areas of the Village to advise motorists of pending work. Contact PSEG by hotline (516-780-0665); website (www.westernnassautransmission.com); and/or email (info@westernnassautransmission.com) with questions. Residents can also visit www.gardencityny.net and click on the “PSEG” tab in the left side menu of the homepage.

STOLEN MAIL IN GARDEN CITY

Commissioner Kenneth Jackson would like to alert residents that the Garden City Police Department has seen an increase in stolen mail in Garden City. These thefts are occurring from residential USPS mailboxes throughout the Village at all times of the day and night. Nassau County Police Department also reports an increase in these types of thefts throughout Nassau County. In most cases, the thieves use a weighted object attached to a string and covered in a sticky substance to retrieve mail out of the mailbox. The thieves are usually looking for checks or other items of value that have been mailed out. The following are recommendations to safeguard your mail:

- Place mail in receptacles inside the Post Office, or hand your outgoing mail directly to your mail carrier
- Do not send cash in the mail
- Use “secure” checks that cannot be altered
- If dropping your mail in a mailbox, drop your mail as close as possible to the collection time listed on the mailbox
- Do not drop mail in the mailbox if you see any sticky substances on the box

The Commissioner would like to remind residents to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity, persons, or vehicles, at or near, a mailbox. If you see or feel a sticky substance on a mailbox, do not put your mail inside and promptly notify the Police Department. Garden City Police recently arrested two subjects for stealing from a mailbox after an alert resident reported suspicious activity. Any suspicious activity, such as a person or persons reaching inside a mailbox, should be reported to the Garden City Police immediately.

AOP+ PILOT PROGRAM

The Garden City Water Department kicked off its pilot-testing program this week for an alternative treatment program to address the issue of emerging contaminants. This new system, AOP+ uses a different method of treatment (titanium dioxide) than the AOP system (hydrogen peroxide) but has not yet been approved for use. The Nassau County Department of Health will be monitoring the pilot program closely; they have already visited the site once and will be returning next week to observe and study further.

“We anticipate the pilot program to take approximately two weeks to complete before the results can be submitted to the Department of Health for review and potential approval,” Department of Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco said. This is only the second pilot program run in Nassau County for the AOP+ system and it has drawn interest not only from the Department of Health but from other water districts as well. The Deputy Mayor of the Village of Hempstead recently visited the site to observe the system, along with a number of members of the Village of Hempstead’s Water Department.

EPA MONITORING WELLS IN THE EAST

The Environmental Protection Agency is drilling wells in the East to monitor underground water pollution caused by a plume from the old Mitchel Field Air Force base that is moving south from that location. The three locations for these four wells are Garden Street, the intersection of Tremont and Garden streets and the intersection of Willow and Tremont streets. The Willow/Tremont intersection is slated to have two wells.

The first well on Garden Street started in October and ended the Friday before Thanksgiving. At the insistence of the Mayor and Board of Trustees, the drilling operation was paused for the multiple holidays through the end of the year with drilling to begin sometime after the New Year.

The Village has been advised that drilling operations will resume the week of February 3, 2020 at the intersection of Garden and Tremont streets. Crews will be at that location for four weeks and will then move on to the intersection of Willow and Tremont streets for the final two wells, which will also take approximately four weeks to complete.

Similar to what was done during the previous monitoring well installation event, EPA will go door-to-door to distribute the community update to residents in the immediate area of Garden and Tremont streets prior to commencement of drilling activities and then again in the immediate area of Willow and Tremont streets. For more information, visit our website, www.gardencityny.net, and click on the “Environmental Protection Agency” tab in the left side menu of the homepage.

GAS MAIN PROJECT ON BROMPTON ROAD SOUTH

National Grid is currently installing a new gas main and house service transfers on Brompton Road South and will continue to portions of Terrace Avenue, all of Lydia Street, portions of Cambridge Avenue and south to Cherry Valley Avenue where they will tie in to a new main that was previously installed. The project is expected to take approximately two to three months to complete. Local road closures may occur, however, residents will have access to their driveways at the end of each day. National Grid will fully restore any sidewalks and/or grass areas that are disturbed. The road will be open for emergency vehicles. National Grid will hand out notices to residents in the project area informing them of the scope of the project as well as providing contact information.

NEW HYDE PARK ROAD GRADE CROSSING ELIMINATION

The closure of New Hyde Park Road, from Plaza Avenue to 4th Avenue, is anticipated to begin on February 3, 2020. The road closure is expected to last approximately seven months. The reconstructed roadway will feature a new, five-lane underpass with pedestrian sidewalks on the east and west sides of the road and a dedicated left-turn lane onto Clinch Avenue. After extensive traffic impact studies, and with input from local officials, the LIRR designed a vehicular detour plan to make navigating around the closure as easy as possible. Visit our website, www.gardencityny.net, and click on the “LIRR 3rd Track Information” tab in the left side menu of the homepage.